

GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATION/ACRONYM LIST*

Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation	A.C.E.	A coverage measurement method used in Census 2000 to estimate the number of people and housing units missed or erroneously. The A.C.E. was a nationwide sample survey conducted by the Census Bureau independent of the census.
Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation 2000	ACE2000	The automated system for assignment, control, and tracking of all A.C.E. field operations, including both paper (paper assisted personal interview) and automated (computer assisted telephone interview).
add		A housing unit whose address was not on the Census Bureau's initial Decennial Master Address File and that was retained in the final decennial census inventory.
address		The house number and street name or other designation assigned to a housing unit, special place, business establishment, or other structure for purposes of mail delivery and/or to enable emergency services, delivery people, and visitors to find the structure.
address listing	AL	A Census 2000 field operation to develop the address list in areas with predominantly noncity-style mailing addresses.
Administrative Records Census 2000 Experiment	AREX 2000	A Census 2000 experiment designed to gain information regarding the feasibility of conducting an administrative records census or the use of administrative records in support of conventional decennial census processes.
Alternative Questionnaire Experiment in Census 2000	AQE2000	Three related experiments included in Census 2000: The skip instruction experiment examined respondent performance in following skip instructions in the Census long form. The residence instructions experiment aimed to improve within-household coverage by rewording the short and long form roster instructions. The race and Hispanic origin experiment compared the 1990-style race and Hispanic origin questions with the new questions in the Census 2000 short form.

* This is not intended to be a complete glossary of terms used in the Census. It includes those terms that are used in the report "Census 2000 Testing, Experimentation, and Evaluation Program Summary Results." For a more complete glossary and abbreviation/acronym list, refer to <http://eire.census.gov/mod-perl/ssd/Glossary>.

American Community Survey	ACS	A monthly sample household survey conducted by the Census Bureau to obtain information similar to the long-form census questionnaire. It is expected to replace the long form for the 2010 Census.
American FactFinder	AFF	An electronic system for access and dissemination of Census Bureau data on the Internet. The system serves as the vehicle for accessing and disseminating data from Census 2000 (as well as the 1990 Census, the 1997 Economic Census, and the American Community Survey).
basic street address	BSA	The house number and street name portion of an address, such as 11 Main Street.
Be Counted	BC	The Be Counted program provided a means for people who believed they were not counted to be included in Census 2000.
Beta Site		Located at Census Bureau headquarters, the beta site was an independent operation to test and assure the quality, completeness, and security of software systems, hardware systems, and network systems before their release to the Census 2000 production environment.
beta testing		Tests that ensured that hardware, software, and communication components were functioning properly before their release to the various decennial operating units.
blank return		A questionnaire returned with little or no information.
block		See census block.
block canvassing		A Census 2000 field operation to ensure the currency and completeness of the Master Address File within the mailout/mailback area.
block cluster		A single block or a group of blocks, varying in size depending on the requirements of each census operation or survey.
blue line		A boundary that defined the extent of the area covered by the block canvassing operation, and later, the mailout/mailback and urban update/leave enumeration areas.
callback		One or more telephone calls and/or visits that a census enumerator made to a living quarters to obtain information.

canvass		To systematically travel, block by block, every street, road, path, and the like in an assignment area to find and record information about every place where people live, stay, or could live and to update and correct the map of the assigned area.
Census 2000		The 22 nd decennial census, taken as of April 1, 2000, for the U.S., Puerto Rico, and several island areas under U.S. jurisdiction. Officially called the 2000 Census of Population and Housing.
Census 2000 Supplementary Survey	C2SS	A nationwide survey conducted to demonstrate the operational feasibility of collecting long form data at the same time as, but in a separate process from, Census 2000.
census block		An area bounded by visible and/or invisible features shown on Census Bureau maps. A block is the smallest geographic entity for which the Census Bureau collected and tabulated 100-percent census data.
Census Day		The reference date for collection of information for a census. For the decennial census, this has been April 1 of the decade year (year ending with zero) since the 1930 census.
Census Edited File	CEF	Staff edited and imputed (item and whole household imputation) the Census Unedited File to create the Census Edited File. Staff edited, imputed (item imputation), and weighted the Census Unedited File - Sample to create the Census Edited File - Sample.
Census in Schools		A program to distribute instructional materials about the census to school administrators, teachers, and children.
census tract		A small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county or statistically equivalent entity, delineated for data presentation purposes. Designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions at the time they are established, census tracts generally contain between 1,000 and 8,000 people, with an optimum size of 4,000 people.
Census Unedited File	CUF	The Census Unedited File contains the individual responses to the short-form questionnaires. The Census Unedited File-Sample contains the individual responses to the long-form questionnaires.

check-in		An operation that recorded a census response into a computer database.
city-style address		An address that consists of a house number and street name (for example, 201 Main Street). The address may or may not be used for the delivery of mail and may include apartment numbers, designations, or similar identifiers.
collection block		A physical block enumerated as a single geographic area, regardless of any legal or statistical boundaries passing through it.
colonias		Colonias are generally unincorporated and low income residential subdivisions along the border between the U.S. and Mexico, lacking basic infrastructure and services.
commercially available off-the-shelf software	COTS	Software that may be purchased and implemented for a particular application with minimal or no modification required.
computer assisted personal interview	CAPI	A method of data collection in which the interviewer asks questions displayed on a laptop computer screen and enters the answers directly into a computer.
computer assisted telephone interview	CATI	A method of data collection using telephone interviews in which the questions to be asked are displayed on a computer screen and responses are entered directly into a computer.
confidentiality		The guarantee made by law (Title 13, U.S. Code) to individuals who provide census information, ensuring nondisclosure of that information to others.
content edit		An operation that includes a review of questionnaires for missed answers or multiple entries. The edits are designed to improve data quality and reduce item nonresponse.
continuation form		A Census 2000 enumerator questionnaire used if there were seven or more people in a household.
Coverage Edit Followup	CEFU	A Census 2000 telephone operation in which telephone agents contracted by the Census Bureau called households whose census responses failed population count discrepancies and large household edits.

Coverage Improvement Followup	CIFU	A Census 2000 field operation during which addresses previously identified as vacant or previously deleted from the Master Address File were verified to be sure that their “vacant” or “deleted” status was correct. The CIFU workload also included other units requiring verification and/or enumeration (e.g., seasonal vacants, units identified as undeliverable as addressed, adds from late operations, and residual NRFU units).
data capture		The process by which respondent information was recorded from the census questionnaires and converted and stored in a computer-readable format. Data capture for Census 2000 was performed in the data capture centers.
Data Capture Audit and Resolution	DCAR	An edit and review of the census responses to compare a derived count of persons to the questionnaire count. Edit failures were resolved in house or referred to CEFU.
data capture center	DCC	A facility that checked in questionnaires, created images of all questionnaire pages, and converted responses to computer-readable format for Census 2000.
Data Capture Services Contract	DCSC	The contract that provided the facilities and management for data capture center operations and services.
Data Capture System 2000	DCS 2000	The data capture system used to capture information from census forms and convert responses to computer-readable format.
decennial census		The census of population and housing, taken by the Census Bureau every ten years in the year ending in zero.
Decennial Master Address File	DMAF	An extract of the Master Address File that the Census Bureau used, with added fields, to control and track the operations and programs of Census 2000.
Decennial Response File	DRF	A file that contains every response to the census from all sources. The Primary Selection Algorithm was applied to this file to unduplicate people from multiple returns for a housing unit and to determine the housing unit record and the people to include at the housing unit. The DRF was then combined with the Decennial Master Address File to create the Census Unedited File.
delete		The status for an address in the Master Address File that does not qualify as a living quarters.

Delivery Sequence File	DSF	A U.S. Postal Service (USPS) file containing all mailing addresses serviced by the USPS. The Census Bureau uses the DSF as a source for maintaining and updating the Master Address File.
demographic analysis	DA	An independent, macro-level approach to validate the census results. Estimates using demographic analysis are based on aggregate sets of administrative data including birth and death records, immigration statistics, and Medicare data.
disclosure avoidance	DA	Statistical methods used in the tabulation of data prior to releasing data products to ensure the confidentiality of responses.
dress rehearsal	DR	A census of population and housing conducted by the Census Bureau in selected areas prior to a decennial census to determine and validate the effectiveness of planned census operations, procedures, and systems.
Dual System Estimation	DSE	The estimation method used for the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation (A.C.E.). This method used a geographic sample of block clusters to find people missed or enumerated in error by the census or A.C.E.
enumeration		The process of interviewing people and recording the information on census or survey forms.
enumerator		A Census Bureau employee who interviews people to obtain information for a census or survey questionnaire.
enumerator questionnaire		See Simplified Enumerator Questionnaire.
Executive Steering Committee for A.C.E. Policy	ESCAP	Established to advise the Director in determining policy for the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation (A.C.E.) and the integration of A.C.E. results into the census for all purposes except Congressional reapportionment.
Facility Questionnaire		See Special Place Facility Questionnaire.
Field Followup	FFU	A data collection procedure involving personal visits by enumerators to housing units to perform the following operations: resolve inconsistent and/or missing data items on returned questionnaires, conduct a vacant/delete check, obtain information for blank or missing questionnaires, and visit housing units for which no questionnaire was checked in.

field verification	FV	Enumerators verified the existence of units that had been geocoded to a census block, but did not match an address in the Master Address File, for questionnaires without Master Address File identification numbers, .
final response rate		See mail response rate.
final return rate		See mail return rate.
fiscal year	FY	A yearly accounting period. The fiscal year for the federal government begins on October 1 and ends on September 30.
frontloading		The Census 2000 practice of hiring and training approximately twice as many enumerators as needed for field operations to compensate for no-shows, dropouts, and expected turnover.
geocode (geographic code)		A code used to identify a specific geographic entity. “To geocode” means to assign an address, living quarters, establishment, etc., to one or more geographic codes that identify the geographic entity(ies) in which it is located.
geocoding		The assignment of an address, structure, key geographic location, or business name to a location that is identified by one or more geographic codes. For living quarters, geocoding usually requires identification of a specific census block.
governmental unit	GU	A geographic entity established by legal action for the purpose of implementing specified general- or special-purpose governmental functions.
group quarters	GQ	A living quarter in which unrelated people live or stay, other than the usual house, apartment, or mobile home.
group quarters enumeration		A method of data collection designed to count people living or staying in group quarters.
group quarters population		The portion of the population of a geographic entity that is living in group quarters on the official date of a census or survey.
hand held computer	HHC	A hand held computer is a small electronic device that has self-contained processing units, contains wireless telecommunications capabilities, and is easily transportable.
hard-to-enumerate	HTE	An area for which the environment or population may present difficulties for enumeration.

headquarters	HQ	A term sometimes used to designate the Census Bureau facility, staff, and operations located primarily in Suitland, MD.
house number and street name address	HN/SN address	An address assigned to a specific structure, consisting of a house number and the street name with which the structure is associated. The address may or may not be used for mail delivery.
household	HH	A person or group of people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. The number of households equals the number of occupied housing units in a census.
housing unit	HU	A house, townhouse, mobile home or trailer, apartment, group of rooms, or single room that is occupied as a separate living quarters or, if vacant, is intended for occupancy as a separate living quarters.
Hundred Percent Census Edited File	HCEF	A computer file that contains the edited characteristics and records for all households and people in Census 2000. The edits are performed on the Hundred Percent Census Unedited File.
Hundred Percent Census Unedited File	HCUF	The Decennial Response File was combined with the Decennial Master Address File to create the HCUF and the Sample Census Unedited File. The HCUF contains the individual responses to the hundred percent data items from both the short- and long-form questionnaires.
hundred percent data		Population and housing information collected for all living quarters in the U.S. as of Census Day. These questions appeared on both the short- and long-form questionnaires.
identification number	ID	See Master Address File Identification Number.
imputation		The assignment of values by the Census Bureau when information is missing or inconsistent. Imputation relies on the tendency of households of the same size within a small geographic area to be similar in most characteristics.
inmover		A person who moved into a housing unit after Census Day.
interactive voice response	IVR	An automated telephone system that offered callers different menu choices covering a variety of predetermined topics.
Internet Data Collection	IDC	Internet Data Collection allowed people to provide responses to the short form via the Internet.

Internet Questionnaire Assistance	IQA	Internet Questionnaire Assistance allowed people to use the Census Bureau's Internet site to seek information about the census questionnaire, job opportunities, and the general purpose of the census.
Key From Image	KFI	An operation in which keyers entered questionnaire responses by referring to a scanned image of a questionnaire for which entries could not be recognized by optical character or optical mark recognition with sufficient confidence.
Key From Paper	KFP	An operation in which keyers entered information directly from a hard-copy questionnaire that could not be read by optical character or optical mark recognition with sufficient confidence.
Language Assistance Guide		Documents in more than 50 languages that explained how to complete an English-language census questionnaire. The guides were distributed at Questionnaire Assistance Centers and other sites identified by the Census Bureau's local partners, on request through Telephone Questionnaire Assistance, and via the Internet.
large household	LHH	A housing unit with more than six persons.
Large Household Followup	LHFU	A Census 2000 operation in which a telephone interview was conducted to obtain additional information for households that reported, on the census questionnaire, that more than six people lived in that housing unit. This operation was included in the Coverage Edit Followup.
late mail return	LMR	A questionnaire received by mail after the cutoff date for identifying nonresponding housing units for the Nonresponse Followup operation.
list/enumerate	L/E	A method of data collection in some of the more remote, sparsely populated areas of the U.S. and the Island Areas, where many of the households do not have mail delivery to city-style addresses.
lister		A census employee who obtains addresses and related information and records the information on address listing pages and Census Bureau maps.
living quarters	LQ	Any place where people live, stay, or could live. Living quarters are classified as housing units or group quarters.

local census office	LCO	A temporary office established for Census 2000 data collection purposes.
Local Update of Census Addresses	LUCA	A Census 2000 program, established in response to requirements of Public Law 103-430, that provided an opportunity for local and tribal governments to review and update individual address information or block-by-block address counts from the Master Address File and associated geographic information in the TIGER [®] database. The goal was to improve the completeness and accuracy of both computer files. Individuals working with the addresses had to sign a confidentiality agreement before a government could participate.
Local Update of Census Addresses Field Verification	LUCA FV	An operation to determine the existence and residential status of addresses reported by local officials for the Local Update of Census Addresses program.
location description		See physical/location description.
long form	LF	The decennial census questionnaire containing 100 percent and sample questions.
long-form sampling		Distribution of the long form used a variable-rate sampling plan to determine which households received the long form.
mail census area		The area covered by the mailout/mailback, update/leave, and urban update/leave methods of enumeration.
mail response rate		The mail response rate is defined as the number of mail returns received prior to the cut date for the NRFU universe divided by the total number of housing units in mailback areas that were eligible for NRFU. The final response rate is similar, but includes all mail returns through the end of the year.
mail return questionnaire		A questionnaire returned by a respondent by mail. These questionnaires were received from mailout/mailback and update/leave areas and also included questionnaires obtained through the Be Counted program.
mail return rate		The mail return rate is defined as the number of mail returns received prior to the cut date for the NRFU universe divided by the total number of occupied housing units in mailback areas that were on the DMAF prior to NRFU. The final return rate is similar, but includes all mail returns through the end of the year.

mailing address		The address used by a living quarters, special place, business establishment, and the like to receive mail. A mailing address includes a post office name, state abbreviation, and ZIP Code. [®]
mailing package		A Census 2000 questionnaire mailing package included a short- or long-form questionnaire, an introductory letter, and a postage-paid return envelope preprinted with the data capture center address corresponding to a housing unit's geographic location.
mailout/mailback	MO/MB	A method of data collection in which the U.S. Postal Service delivered addressed questionnaires to housing units recorded in the Census Bureau's Decennial Master Address File. Residents were asked to complete and mail the questionnaires to a specified data capture center.
Management Information System	MIS	A Census 2000 computer system that provided the Census Bureau with decision support functions, such as critical-path analysis and what-if analysis. It included the Master Activity Schedule and the Cost and Progress System.
map spot		A dot drawn on a census block map by a lister or enumerator to show the location of a structure that contains one or more living quarters.
map spot number		The number assigned uniquely to each map spot within a census collection block. The same number can represent more than one living quarters located in a multi-unit structure, in which case the number on the map is followed parenthetically by the number of living quarters in that structure.
Master Activity Schedule	MAS	A schedule of the activities involved in the planning, preparation, conduct, data capture, processing, and dissemination of Census 2000.
Master Address File	MAF	A computer file of every address and physical/location description known to the Census Bureau, including their geographic locations. The MAF was used to create the Decennial Master Address File, which provided the addresses for mailing and delivering Census 2000 questionnaires.
Master Address File Identification Number	MAFID	A number associated with each living quarters or special place recorded in the Master Address File. It is also called the census identification number.

Matching and Review Coding System	MaRCS	A two-part system used for the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation survey. First, the computer matched housing units and persons. Second, cases not resolved by the computer matching were assigned to clerks in the National Processing Center in Jeffersonville, IN, for review and coding.
mobile computing device	MCD	See hand held computer.
multi-unit structure		A building that contains more than one housing unit (for example, an apartment building).
municipio		A governmental unit that is the primary legal subdivision of Puerto Rico. The Census Bureau treats a municipio as equivalent to a county for data presentation purposes.
National Processing Center	NPC	The permanent Census Bureau processing facility in Jeffersonville, Indiana.
no identification number	non-ID	A completed census questionnaire without a census identification number. Non-ID'd addresses were obtained from Be Counted questionnaires, Individual Census Reports, Individual Census Questionnaires, Shipboard Census Reports, Military Census Reports, and questionnaires from Telephone Questionnaire Assistance. In addition, some questionnaires from enumerator operations did not have an ID number.
noncity-style address		A mailing address that does not use a house number and street name. This includes rural routes and highway contract routes, which may include a box number, post office boxes and drawers, and general delivery.
nonresponse	NR	A housing unit for which the Census Bureau did not have a completed questionnaire and from which the Census Bureau did not receive a telephone or Internet response.
Nonresponse Followup	NRFU	An operation whose objective is to obtain completed questionnaires from housing units for which the Census Bureau did not have a completed questionnaire in mail census areas (mailout/mailback, update/leave, and urban update/leave).
nonsampling error		Any error that occurs during the measuring or data collection process. Nonsampling errors can yield biased results when most of the errors distort the results in the same direction. The full extent of nonsampling error is unknown.

occupied housing unit		A housing unit that is the usual place of residence of the person or people living in it at the time of enumeration, even if the occupants are only temporarily absent; for example, away on vacation.
Operational Test Dry Run	OTDR	A practice test of the operations of the data capture centers.
Operations Control System 2000	OCS 2000	One of the decennial field interface systems used for control, tracking, and progress reporting for all field operations conducted for the census, including production of materials used by field staff to do their work.
optical character recognition	OCR	Technology that uses an optical scanner and computer software to “read” human handwriting and convert it into electronic form.
optical mark recognition	OMR	Technology that uses an optical scanner and computer software to recognize the presence of marks in predesignated areas and assign a value to the mark depending on its specific location and intensity on a page.
outmover		A person who lived in a specific housing unit on Census Day, but lived elsewhere at the time of the census interview.
partnership		An agreement with a state, local, or tribal government or a community group that gave such an organization an opportunity to participate in various ways in Census 2000.
person record		A record for an individual created from a data captured census form.
personal visit	PV	Face-to-face contact between a member of the public and a Census Bureau enumerator to obtain information.
physical/location description		A short written description of the location and physical characteristics of a living quarters that does not have a house-number/street-name address to help Census Bureau staff find the living quarters.
planning database		A geographic database containing prior census housing, demographic, and socioeconomic variables correlated with nonresponse and undercount data and used to identify specific geographic areas (for example, interim census tracts) that could benefit from special enumeration methods to improve coverage.

population		All people living in a geographic area.
population density		The population of an area divided by the number of square miles or square kilometers of land area.
Pre-appointment Management System/ Automated Decennial Administrative Management System	PAMS/ ADAMS	An integrated structure of administrative management programs that supported applicant tracking and processing, background checks, selection records, recruiting reports, personnel and payroll processing, and archiving of historical information. This system was used by the Census Bureau in the hiring of temporary field workers for Census 2000.
Primary Selection Algorithm	PSA	A computer program applied to the Decennial Response File to eliminate duplicate responses for the same identification number and to determine the housing unit record and the people to include for a housing unit. After this procedure, the Decennial Response File was merged with the Decennial Master Address File to create the Census Unedited File.
Privacy Act		A 1974 law (Title 5, Section 5520) that places restrictions on the collection, use, maintenance, and release of information about individuals, their household, and their place of residence.
Program Master Plan	PMP	A document that explains the preparatory, field, processing, and statistical requirements for each major Census 2000 operation.
proxy		An interview in which the respondent is not a member of the household being enumerated. The respondent might be a neighbor or some other knowledgeable person.
quality assurance	QA	A systematic approach to building accuracy and completeness into a process.
quality control	QC	Various statistical methods that validate that products or operations meet specified standards.
questionnaire		The census or survey form on which a respondent or enumerator records information requested by the Census Bureau for a specific census or survey.
Questionnaire Assistance Center	QAC	A center established by a local census office to assist people with completing their questionnaires. For Census 2000, the centers were established in community centers, large apartment buildings, and so forth. The centers were staffed by volunteers and Census Bureau employees.

questionnaire mailing strategy		For Census 2000, an advance notice letter, a questionnaire, and a reminder/thank-you postcard were sent to every address in mailout/mailback census areas.
refusal		Reluctance by residents, apartment managers, local officials, or others to cooperate with Census Bureau employees.
regional census center	RCC	One of 12 temporary Census Bureau offices established for Census 2000 to manage census field office and local census office activities and to conduct geographic programs and support operations.
regional office	RO	One of 12 permanent Census Bureau offices established for the management of all census operations for the Census Bureau's censuses and surveys in specified areas.
regularly scheduled mobile food van		A van that regularly visits designated street locations for the primary purpose of providing food to people without housing.
reinterview		A quality control operation to verify that enumerators collected accurate information. An enumerator re-asks certain questions and compares the answers to the original questionnaire to verify that the original enumerator visited the correct address and completed the questionnaire accurately.
Remote Alaska enumeration		A modified version of the list/enumerate methodology used to enumerate the most sparsely settled, isolated parts of Alaska—areas accessible only by small plane, boat, snowmobile, 4-wheel-drive vehicle, dog sled, or a combination of these—in January-April 2000. Remote Alaska enumeration began in mid-January so enumerators could reach people living in these remote locations before the spring thaw. Questions were asked as of Census Day.
residence status		A code identifying each person as either a resident or nonresident of a housing unit on Census Day.
respondent		The person supplying survey or census information about his or her living quarters and its occupants or a knowledgeable person if a resident is not available.
Response Mode and Incentive Experiment	RMIE	An experiment designed to investigate the impact of three computer-assisted data collection techniques on the response rate and data quality in Census 2000. Half of the respondent panels were offered an incentive for using the alternate response mode.

response rate		See mail response rate.
return rate		See mail return rate.
rural		All territory, population, and housing units located outside of urbanized areas and urban clusters.
Sample Census Edited File	SCEF	A file containing 100-percent and sample characteristics for housing units and people in the long-form sample.
Sample Census Unedited File	SCUF	The Decennial Response File was combined with the Decennial Master Address File to create the Hundred Percent Census Unedited File and the Sample Census Unedited File. The Sample Census Unedited File contained the individual responses to items on the long-form questionnaires.
sample data		Census data derived from additional questions asked of about 17 percent of the population on the long-form questionnaire for Census 2000 and on a continuous basis for areas covered by the American Community Survey.
sampling error		An error that occurs because only part of the population is contacted directly. As with any sample, differences are likely to exist between the characteristics of the sampled population and the larger group from which the sample was chosen. Sampling error, unlike nonsampling error, is measurable.
scanner		Equipment used to capture images from documents for the purpose of entering the information into an electronic format.
seasonal/recreational-occasional use housing unit		A housing unit for occupancy only during limited portions of the year, such as a beach cottage, ski cabin, or time-share condominium.
separate living quarters		Living quarters in which one or more occupant(s) live separately from any other individual(s) in the building and have direct access to the living quarters without going through another living quarters. For vacant units, the criteria of separateness and direct access are applied to the intended occupants.

service-based enumeration	SBE	A method of data collection in the U.S. and Puerto Rico for Census 2000 designed to count people at facilities that primarily serve people experiencing homelessness. These facilities include emergency or transitional shelters, soup kitchens, and regularly scheduled mobile food van stops. In addition, SBE counted people at targeted nonsheltered outdoor locations who did not usually receive services at soup kitchens, shelters, or mobile food vans.
short form	SF	The decennial census questionnaire containing only the 100 percent questions.
Simplified Enumerator Questionnaire	SEQ	A questionnaire that enumerators used for Transient (T-Night) Enumeration, Nonresponse Followup, and Coverage Improvement Followup.
social security number	SSN	A number issued by the Social Security Administration for purposes of employment and benefits.
Social Security Number, Privacy Attitudes, and Notification Experiment	SPAN	An experiment designed to assess the public's attitudes on privacy and confidentiality issues related to the notion of an administrative records census and to examine how the notification of administrative records use and the request for SSN would impact response rates and item nonresponse rates during Census 2000.
soup kitchen		A soup kitchen, food line, or other program that distributes prepared breakfasts, lunches, and/or dinners.
special place	SP	A facility containing one or more group quarters where people live or stay, such as a college or university, nursing home, hospital, prison, hotel, migrant or seasonal farm worker camp, or military installation or ship.
Special Place Advance Visit	SPAV	A Census 2000 operation designed to confirm the location of a group quarters and other information to prepare for enumeration and to establish a pre-enumeration contact with an official at a special place to facilitate the actual enumeration.

Special Place Facility Questionnaire	SPFQ	A questionnaire used to interview an official at a special place for the purpose of collecting and updating name and address information for the special place and associated group quarters and housing units, determining the type of special place/group quarters, and collecting additional administrative information about each group quarters at the special place.
standard error		A measure of the deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples.
Statistical Administrative Records System	StARS	A research project designed to build a database of person and address data using administrative records from various government agencies, primarily for application to decennial census research and development.
stratum		A grouping or classification that has a similar set of characteristics.
tabulation block		The smallest area for which the Census Bureau provides decennial census data. A tabulation block cannot be split by the boundary of any legal or statistical entity recognized by the Census Bureau for data presentation.
Targeted Extended Search	TES	An Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation (A.C.E.) operation to offset geocoding problems in the census by expanding the search area for nonmatches to blocks surrounding the A.C.E. sample blocks.
targeted nonsheltered outdoor location	TNSOL	A geographically identifiable outdoor location, open to the elements, where there was evidence that people might be living without paying to stay and without receiving services at soup kitchens, shelters, or mobile food vans. The sites must have had a specific location description that allowed a census enumeration team to physically locate the site. These locations were enumerated during service-based enumeration for Census 2000.
telephone followup	TFU	Telephone contact to an occupied housing unit to complete or correct inadequate entries for mail-return questionnaires that failed an edit.

Telephone Questionnaire Assistance	TQA	A service provided by telephone centers contracted by the Census Bureau to answer questions about Census 2000 or the census questionnaire. People could call to obtain assistance with filling out their questionnaires, obtain replacement questionnaires, obtain language assistance guides, or provide their census questionnaire information.
tenure		The status of an occupied housing unit as either owner-occupied or renter-occupied.
TIGER [®]		See Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing database.
Title 13 (U.S. Code)		The law under which the Census Bureau operates. The law guarantees the confidentiality of census information and establishes penalties for disclosing this information. It also provides the authorization for conducting censuses in Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.
Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing database	TIGER[®] database	A digital (computer-readable) geographic database that automates the mapping and related geographic activities required to support the Census Bureau's census and survey programs. The database contains a digital representation of all census-required map features (streets and roads; railroads; hydrographic features, such as rivers and lakes; boundaries of legal, statistical, and data collection entities; etc.) and the attributes associated with each feature and geographic entity (name, city-style address ranges, map spots and map spot numbers, appropriate codes, etc.). It is stored in multiple partitions (counties or portions of counties), which together represent all the territory covered by the decennial census—the U.S., Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas—as a single seamless data inventory.
Transient Night	T-Night	A type of group quarters enumeration in which special procedures are used to count people at transient locations, such as at racetracks, recreational vehicle campgrounds and parks, commercial and public campgrounds, fairs and carnivals, and marinas.
turnover rate		The total number of enumerators who quit during a field operation divided by the total number of enumerators hired for that operation.

type of enumeration area	TEA	A classification identifying how the Census Bureau obtained addresses for, and subsequently took the decennial census of, a census collection block.
undeliverable as addressed	UAA	A U.S. Postal Service notification that a mailing piece could not be delivered to the designated address.
Undeliverable as Addressed Redistribution		An operation that was a cooperative effort between the Census Bureau and the U.S. Postal Service to attempt to have Census Bureau field staff redistribute a portion of the questionnaire packages that the U.S. Postal Service could not deliver.
unit designation		The number or letter of a specific unit in a multi-unit structure, such as Apt 101, 102; Apt A, B, C; or Basement, Left, Lower, Right, Upper. Also refers to a lot number in a mobile home/trailer park.
United States	U.S.	The 50 states and the District of Columbia.
United States Postal Service	USPS	The organization responsible for delivering pre-addressed questionnaires in mailout/mailback areas for Census 2000 and the producer of the Delivery Sequence File and associated files.
update/enumerate	U/E	A method of data collection conducted in communities with special enumeration needs and where many housing units may not have house-number-and-street-name mailing addresses. In Census 2000, enumerators canvassed assignment areas to update residential addresses, including adding living quarters that were not included on the address listing pages, update Census Bureau maps, and complete a questionnaire for each housing unit.
update/leave	U/L	A method of data collection in which enumerators canvassed assignment areas to deliver a census questionnaire to each housing unit. At the same time, enumerators updated the address listing pages and Census Bureau maps. The household was asked to complete and return the questionnaire by mail. This method was used primarily in areas where many homes do not receive mail at a city-style address; that is, the majority of U.S. households not included in mailout/mailback. Update/leave was used for all of Puerto Rico in Census 2000.

urban		All territory, population, and housing units in urbanized areas and urban clusters.
urban update/enumerate	UU/E	A method of data collection used in selected hard-to-enumerate mailout/mailback collection blocks. In Census 2000, enumerators canvassed each block, enumerated each unit, and updated their address registers and Census Bureau maps.
urban update/leave	UU/L	A method of data collection used in selected mailout/mailback collection blocks where mail delivery may be a problem, such as apartment buildings where the mail carrier may leave the questionnaires in a common area. In Census 2000, enumerators canvassed each block, delivered census questionnaires for residents to complete and mail, and updated their address registers and Census Bureau maps.
usual home elsewhere	UHE	See whole household usual home elsewhere.
usual residence		The living quarters where a person spends more nights during a year than any other place.
vacant housing unit		A housing unit in which no one is living on Census Day, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. Units temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration by individuals who have a usual home elsewhere are classified as vacant.
whole household usual home elsewhere	WHUHE	A housing unit that is temporarily occupied by one or more people who all have a usual residence elsewhere. The unit is classified as vacant and the residents are counted at their usual residence.
ZIP Code®		An administrative unit established by the U.S. Postal Service for the distribution of mail.

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